



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Who makes the rules for interconnection?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative's interconnect rules closely follow Iowa Utilities Commission rule RMU-2009-0008 passed in May 2010. Our forms are a result of the regulation and were designed by the Iowa Utilities Commission to be nearly the same for any rate regulated utility in the State of Iowa. Corridor Energy Cooperative is not rate regulated but does closely follow the Iowa Utilities Commission rules for interconnection. There are several levels of rules that apply to renewable energy interconnections:

1. FERC – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
2. State of Iowa rule 199 IAC 45
3. City and county specific rules
4. Corridor Energy Cooperative requirements and specifications

It is the installer's responsibility to ensure all the rules for installation are followed.

### **Where do interconnection packets and application payments get sent?**

Level 1 interconnection packets must be submitted online, which is found on our Renewable Generation page of our website. Level 2-4 packets can be mailed or emailed to: [renewables@corridorenergy.coop](mailto:renewables@corridorenergy.coop). Email is the fastest and preferred way for Corridor Energy Cooperative to receive an interconnection packet.

Payments must be made by check and mailed to:

Corridor Energy Cooperative  
5695 REC Drive  
PO Box 69  
Marion, IA 52302-0069  
ATTN: Renewables Payments

Forms can be submitted by mail to:

Corridor Energy Cooperative  
PO Box 69  
Marion, IA 52302-0069  
ATTN: Renewables

Please make sure to note on the check the address or preferably the meter number of the installation that the check should be applied to.

### **Does Corridor Energy Cooperative net meter?**

Yes, the standard installation involves switching your existing AMI meter program to measure kWh purchased from Corridor Energy Cooperative and kWh sold to Corridor Energy Cooperative. The netting takes place in the Corridor Energy Cooperative's billing system on a monthly basis.

### **Does Corridor Energy Cooperative "bank" excess kWh?**

Time-of-day rates mean the price of electricity changes depending on when you use it. Power costs more during our On-Peak hours, between 4:00pm and 10:00pm, and less during Off-Peak and Super Saver times. Members with solar can save by using more electricity when their panels are producing and by shifting activities to lower-cost times. Energy use and solar production



are balanced within the same time period—usage or credits cannot be carried from one time-of-day period to another. This helps keep costs fair and encourages using electricity when it's least expensive.

However, Corridor Energy Cooperative does bank dollars. Any dollars left after the net, taxes, etc are applied will be left on the account for use on future bills.

#### **How much does Corridor Energy Cooperative pay for energy sold to the utility?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative pays avoided cost for purchased energy above the netted amount. Please see our website to get our current AEP Tariff. The avoided cost is adjusted monthly and will be reflected in the amount Corridor Energy Cooperative pays for energy on your net metered account.

#### **What rates are eligible for net metering?**

For interconnection, any of Corridor Energy Cooperative's total billing on standard rate codes are available for metering. Please note that you must meet eligibility requirements for the rate. These would include rate codes 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, and 13 as listed in our tariff. Our rates can be found under our current tariff on our website. Please be aware that rates and rate structures are subject to change. If you are calculating financial options, it is likely that the rates and rate structures currently in place will change during the time frame of your payback analysis. Alternative energy members are not locked into any rate and are subject to changes in the future.

#### **Are there any rates in the Corridor Energy Cooperative tariff that are not eligible for alternative energy interconnection?**

If you are currently utilizing and optional rate coded such as Rate 17DFM, 19DFM, 38DFM (Heat Plus), Rate 14 (Large Power Time-of-Day), or Rate 16 (Interruptible) you will not be eligible to continue with these rates due to the way the rates are metered. It will be necessary to move you to one of Corridor Energy Cooperative's standard rates such as Rate 11TOD, 12TOD, 13TOD or 3MCOM. Our rates can be found at <https://corridorenergy.coop/rates-and-tariff-information/>.

#### **What equipment does Corridor Energy Cooperative recommend for installation?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative does not recommend equipment from any particular manufacturer. It is an individual's choice as to what equipment you install. It is your responsibility to ensure the equipment and installation meet the required criteria.

#### **Does Corridor Energy Cooperative keep a list of recommended installers in the area?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative does not recommend installers. The choice of the installers should be based on multiple criteria and must be evaluated by the individual looking to invest in an alternative energy source.

#### **Does Corridor Energy Cooperative offer incentive for purchasing or installing an alternative energy source?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative does not offer any rebates, cash back or incentives other than net metering.

#### **What happens if I interconnect without telling Corridor Energy Cooperative?**

Two things will happen. First, you will not receive credit for electricity put back on the grid. While the meter shows a kWh sold to Corridor Energy Cooperative, the readings are not recorded by our billing system. Second, when discovered, your electric service will be disconnected until the situation has been corrected. This includes submitting the proper paperwork, paying the application fee, and all inspections have been completed. This process can take up to a minimum of 15 business days.



### **Who pays if the Engineering Department requires the electrical grid to be upgraded or changed?**

Iowa is a first come first serve state. This means the member whose interconnection causes the changes needed on the Corridor Energy Cooperative system pays for the upgrade even if there are others with alternative energy sources already installed that may have contributed to the need for an upgrade and/or change. Corridor Energy Cooperative uses the information in the interconnection packet to perform an engineering study in accordance with 199 IAC 45 and IEEE 1547. If the interconnect request requires changes and/or upgrades to our distribution system, the member will be billed for the changes necessary if they wish to continue with the interconnection process.

Please note lead times for equipment that may be necessary for changes to the system can take 6 months or longer. If a line build or line upgrade is required, it could take 12 months or longer to complete the build or upgrade.

The member will not be allowed to interconnect with the Corridor Energy Cooperative system until the necessary changes have been made to our system.

### **Do I need to meter the output of my alternative energy source?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative does not require a meter at this time but in order to know your consumption, you would need to have a way of metering the source. In most cases your inverter will have a way of tracking your production. Corridor Energy Cooperative only knows how much electricity you have received from us and how much electricity was sold back to us. We do not know what you consume internally.

### **What is the average increase in electricity cost from Corridor Energy Cooperative in order to forecast costs in the future?**

In the past 25 years it has averaged 1.3% per year (some years higher, some lower) and is expected to remain at a similar rate.

### **What are some pieces of information I should know when looking at alternative energy production?**

Maintenance costs, historical usage by month, monthly projected output, cost of interconnection both your equipment and with Corridor Energy Cooperative, interest rates, cost of property tax, cost of property insurance, modeled percent increases in cost from Corridor Energy Cooperative, warranty, life expectancy (production will decrease over time), and current rate design are all examples to consider.

### **Is rate designed locked after interconnection?**

All Corridor Energy Cooperative rates are subject to change in the future and are not locked or grandfathered.

### **Are there tax implications associated with Corridor Energy Cooperative purchasing power from my interconnected energy source?**

Corridor Energy Cooperative cannot advise you on tax implications of selling energy. You will need to consult a tax professional for guidance on the tax implications of selling energy. If Corridor Energy Cooperative purchases excess energy from your interconnect alternative energy source in excess of \$600 in any calendar year, we are required by law to send you an IRS form 1099 at the end of the calendar year.